

Rev. Weber grew up in a family devoted to Main Line Unitarian Church's partnership with the Unitarian church in Várfalva, Transylvania. He has been on eight group trips to Transylvania, providing leadership and/or translation services on five of them. He has volunteered on six Habit for Humanity trips in Hungary, leading three of them. As a young adult, he co-led two North American volunteer groups in rebuilding trips after the 2006 floods in Transylvania. Last summer, he co-led the UUPCC/Starr King School for the Ministry collaborative Mindful Walk pilgrimage. He is proficient in conversational Hungarian.



As I saw on the Mindful Walk trip, Andrew is highly skilled at incorporating spirituality and U/U identity in travel experiences—the key thing that makes our trips different from other overseas group experiences and congruent with our mission. Dedicated to doing more listening than talking with compassion and curiosity, he is highly adept at cross-cultural communication even in complicated situations. He is passionate about mutual Partnership because it has changed his life. He is an excellent communicator and is highly organized. He has a very large network of contacts and friends among Transylvanian Unitarians.

Andrew served as the minister of the UU Fellowship of Newark, Delaware, from 2013-2017. He served on the UUPCC Board from 2016 until he left the Board on a leave of absence when he decided to apply for this position. He was nominated to serve a second term, but his name was removed from the slate presented at Friday's annual meeting

Andrew will likely begin in September so there is a small overlap with John Dale and Csilla Kolcsar who will retire this fall. The staffing design for our Travel Program will change. We will be moving to a Hub and Spoke design with the hub being the North American-based Travel Program Director and the spokes being in-country trip leaders overseen by the Travel Program Director and, in Transylvania and Hungary, the Hungarian Unitarian Church (HUC). We will have a much closer collaboration with the HUC in arranging logistics and hiring, training, and supervising a team of in-country trip leaders.

I'm thankful for Andrew and the other excellent people who applied for this position. I'm also deeply grateful for the dedicated work of John Dale and Csilla Kolcsar. Andrew will take over a very strong travel program. Stay tuned for plans to thank John and Csilla for their long years of service.

Sincerely,

Roger Bertschausen  
UUPCC Executive Director